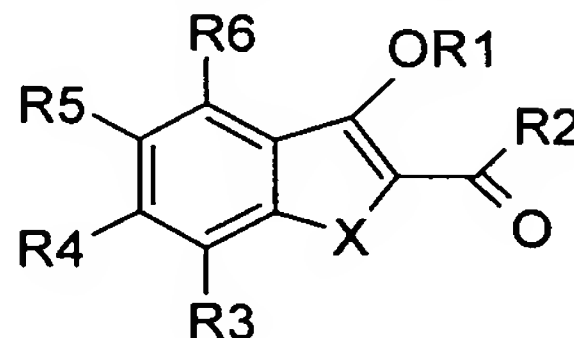


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,
-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
-Alk-C(=O)NRR',
-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
-Alk-O-Alk,
-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
-Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR₇R₈, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

-H;
-Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

with the exception of the compounds for which :

1) R1 = CH₂-phenyl, optionally substituted by -NO₂ or -OMe,

R2 = -OMe, -OEt or -OH, R3, R6 = H, R4, R5 = H or -OMe,

X = O or S, or

2) R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)Me, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, X = O and R2 = -OEt or X = S and R2 = -OMe;

3) R1 = -CH₂-CO₂Et, R2 = -OEt, R3, R4, R6 = H, X = O and R5 = -NH₂ or -NO₂; or R1 = -CH₂-CO₂Me, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, R2 = -OMe and X = O or S, or R2 = -OH and X = S; or

R1 = -CH₂CO₂H, R3, R4, R5, R6 = H, R2 = OH and X = S;

4) R1 = -CH₂-phenyl, R2 = -NH₂, X = O, S and R5 = -OMe, or X = O and R5 = phenyl.

2. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I) according to Claim 1, in which:

R2 = -OEt and X = S, and

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het,

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

in which each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -

NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. (Original) Compounds of the general formula (I) according to Claim 1, in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het;

R2 = -NR₇R₈ in which

R₇ is chosen from H and -Alk;

R₈ is chosen from

-Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_mcycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het';

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -

OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_mcycloalkyl and NO₂;

R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

in which each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

X = O or S;

R₁ is chosen from:

-Alk-COOH,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,

-Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,

-Alk-C(=O)NRR',

-Alk-(O)_m-Ar,

-Alk-O-Alk,

-Alk-O-Alk-Ar,

-Alk-O-Het;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

4. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R3, R4, R5, R6 = H.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which X = S.

6. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R2 = -OAlk.

7. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which m = 0.

8. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R2 = -NR7R8,

in which

R7 = H or Alk and

R8 = -Alk' optionally substituted by -C(=O)-OAlk, -Het', -Ar' optionally substituted by -Hal, -C(=O)OAlk or -Alk-C(=O)OAlk.

9. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which:

R1 = -CH₂-COOH, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het, -CH₂-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -CH₂-C(=O)NRR', -CH₂-(O)_m-Ar, -CH₂-O-Alk, -CH₂-O-Alk-Ar or -CH₂-O-Het in which

Ar is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -Alk, -O-Alk-Ar, -C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -S(O)_n-Ar, -S(O)_n-Alk, -O-CF₃, -CN and -OH,

in which m = 0 or 1, n = 2.

10. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)-Ar, -CH₂-C(=O)-Alk or -(CH₂)_m'-(O)_m-Ar, in which

Ar is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -Alk, -

O-Alk-Ar, -C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -S(O)_n-Ar, -S(O)_n-Alk, -O-CF₃, -CN and -OH,

in which m = 0 or 1, m' = 1 or 2, n = 2.

11. (Original) Compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 10, in which m' = 2 if m = 1.

12. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which Ar = phenyl.

13. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O) Alk.

14. (Original) Compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 13, in which Alk = -CMe₃.

15. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 12~~ Claim 1, in which R1 = -CH₂-C(=O)-phenyl or -CH₂-phenyl, in which phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk and -CN.

16. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, chosen from:

ethyl 3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-oxo-2-phenylethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-biphenyl-4-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-oxo-2-*p*-tolylethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2-adamantan-1-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-[2-(4-benzyloxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(1-methyl-2-oxo-2-phenylethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

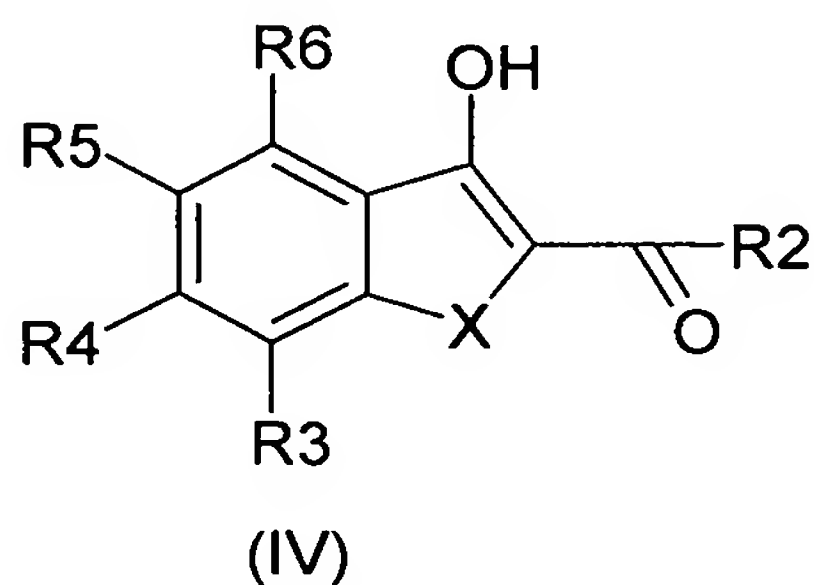
ethyl 3-[2-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(3,3-dimethyl-2-oxobutoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-naphthalen-2-yl-2-oxoethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2,3-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2-benzyloxy-5-fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-hydroxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(4-fluorophenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-phenethyloxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-phenoxyethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(4-cyanophenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-{2-[4-(2-methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]phenoxy}ethoxy}benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(naphthalen-1-yloxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2-methoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-[2-(2,3-dimethylphenoxy)ethoxy]benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2'-cyanobiphenyl-4-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-phenoxypropoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-cyanobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(2-benzenesulfonylmethylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-methoxycarbonylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-trifluoromethoxybenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-pentafluorophenylmethoxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(naphthalen-2-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(biphenyl-2-ylmethoxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(3-methoxybenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-fluorobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-bromobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-(4-methylbenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;
ethyl 3-benzyloxybenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

ethyl 3-(2,3-difluorobenzyloxy)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxylate;

and also the stereoisomeric forms, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

17. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (I) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, comprising the step consisting in using: a compound of the formula (IV)

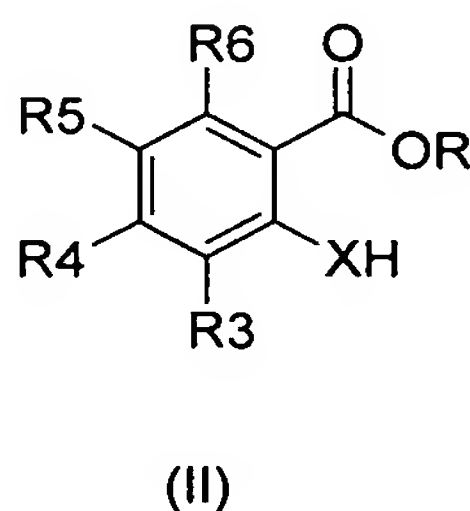


with a halo derivative of the formula (V):

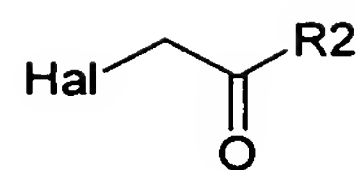


in which R1-R6 are defined as in any one of the preceding claims, with an equimolar amount, in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C.

18. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of the compounds of the formula (I) ~~according to Claim 17~~, for which the compound of the formula (IV) is obtained by adding a compound of the formula (II):



in which R3-R6 and X are as defined in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 16~~ Claim 1, and R represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical, to a 2-haloethanone derivative of the formula (III):

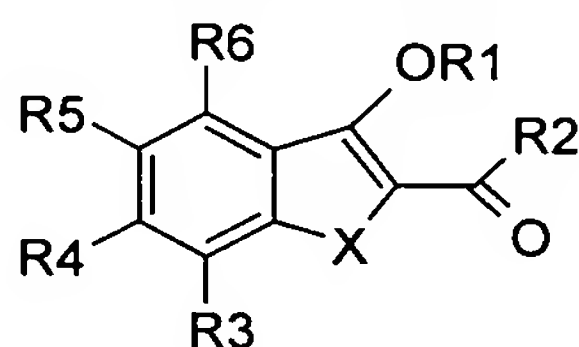


(III)

in which Hal represents a halogen atom and R2 is as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 16, in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C, followed by cyclization in a polar solvent, at a temperature of from -20 to 200°C.

19. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of the compounds of the formula (I) according to Claim 17 ~~or 18~~, for which the said polar solvent is chosen from: ethanol, methanol, water, DMF, NMP, DMSO and iPrOH.

20. (Original) Pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

- Alk-COOH,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
- Alk-C(=O)NRR',
- Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-O-Alk,
- Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
- Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR7R8, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

-H;

-Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

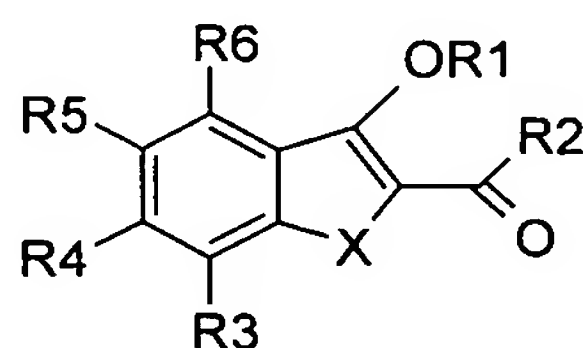
n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts

thereof.

21. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical compositions ~~according to Claim 17~~, in which X and R1-R6 are as defined according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 16~~ Claim 2.

22. (Original) Use of the compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

in which:

X = O or S;

R1 is chosen from:

- Alk-COOH,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Het,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-Alk,
- Alk-C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl,
- Alk-C(=O)NRR',
- Alk-(O)_m-Ar,
- Alk-O-Alk,
- Alk-O-Alk-Ar,
- Alk-O-Het;

R2 is chosen from -OH, -OAlk, -NR₇R₈, -OAr, -OHet and -O-cycloalkyl;

R7 is chosen from H and -Alk;

R8 is chosen from

- H;
- Alk' or -cycloalkyl,

in which Alk' or cycloalkyl is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from -

OAlk, -CN, -OHet, -OH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl, -COOH and -NO₂;

-Ar' or Het',

in which Ar' or Het' is optionally substituted by one or more groups chosen from Hal, -OAlk, -OH, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -NRR', -Het, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -C(=O)-(O)_mAr, -C(=O)-(O)_mHet, -C(=O)-(O)_m-cycloalkyl and NO₂;

or R7 and R8 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a nitrogenous heterocycle of 5 to 10 atoms;

R3, R4, R5 and R6, which may be identical or different, are chosen independently from H, -Hal, -OH, -Alk, -OAlk, -CN, -CF₃, -NRR' and -NO₂;

in which, in the definitions of R1-R8:

each of the Alk, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -COOH, -NRR', -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Het and -NO₂;

each of the Ar, which may be identical or different, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more groups chosen from -Hal, -OAlk, -Alk, -Ar, -OAlkAr, -OH, -CN, -OAr, -CF₃, -AlkAr, -COOH, -C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -Alk-C(=O)-(O)_mAlk, -NRR', -Het, -NO₂, -S(O)_n-Ar and -S(O)_nAlk;

R and R' are chosen independently from H and Alk;

m = 0 or 1;

n = 0, 1 or 2;

and also the stereoisomers thereof, and the racemates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

for the manufacture of a medicament for reducing hyperglycaemia.

23. (Original) Use according to Claim 22, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of diabetes.

24. (Currently Amended) Utilisation according to Claim 22 ~~or 23~~, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of non-insulin-dependent diabetes.

25. (Currently Amended) Use according to Claim 22, ~~23 or 24~~, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of dyslipidaemia and/or obesity.

26. (Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of Claims 22 to 25~~ Claim 22, for which the said medicament is for the treatment of and/or preventing diabetes-related microvascular and macrovascular complications.

27. (Original) Use according to Claim 26, for which the said microvascular and macrovascular complications are chosen from atherosclerosis, arterial hypertension, diabetes-related inflammatory processes, microangiopathy, macroangiopathy, retinopathy and neuropathy.

28. (Cancel)